

Employers Adapt and Workforce Supports

Responding for the Nation



Survival & Success for Innovation & Resilience

A PPE Pivot

As an “essential business” the Fresno Workforce Development Board had to quickly pivot and find a source for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to ensure our Workforce Development staff had the protection they needed, like reusable facemasks, to provide uninterrupted service to employers and jobseekers.

Faced with the urgent need and short lead time, FRWDB General Services Manager, Augie Quiroz recalls that “... it was especially important to find a local business that could adapt quickly and that we could support through our purchase of this product.” He connected with Snowflake Designs, located in Clovis, and the rest is history!

The Leadership of Local Manufacturing

When the shutdown hit Snowflake Designs, a gymnastic apparel manufacturer in Clovis, it had to temporarily lay off 30 employees. However, a quick switch to begin producing facemasks allowed them to bring back all of their valued employees -- and save their business.

Snowflake was one of a few Fresno County manufacturers. Including Precision Plastics and others, who began to quickly fill the PPE void and supply emergency needs locally, nationally and internationally.

BUY LOCAL!

Neighborly Support

The Workforce Development Board is proud to be a leading ‘Buy Local’ voice and to be a long-time partner with and supporter of innovative Fresno County manufacturers!

According to Craig Scharon, client advisor for the California Manufacturing Technology Consulting, Inc. (CMTC), which assists California manufacturing, while local Fresno County manufacturers have done their part to help fill a

larger national need, this is also “... a special time for us to choose locally-made products. We need to keep every dollar here, to keep our neighbors employed, to keep our businesses running and to keep our public services funded.”